DAG HEWARD-MILLS
the Big Secret
Your ministry depends on books

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Dag Heward-Mills

Parchment House

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The Big Secret
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Copyright © 2025 Dag Heward-Mills
First published 2025 by Parchment House
Find out more about Dag Heward-Mills at:
Healing Jesus Campaign
Email: evangelist@daghewardmills.org
Website: www.daghewardmills.org
Facebook: Dag Heward-Mills
Twitter: @EvangelistDag
ISBN :
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Contents

1. Respect the Books
2. A Book is a Weapon
3. How Books Will Change Your Ministry
4. Get An Approved Ministry
5. Get a Blessing
6. Get Encouragement
7. Achieve What Paul Achieved
8. Prophet Daniel and Books
9. King Josiah and Books
10. Joshua and Books
11. John and Books
12. Timothy and Books

Chapter 1
Respect the Books

And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, and Shema, and Anaiah, and Urijah, and Hilkiah, and Maaseiah, on his right hand; and on his left hand, Pedaiah, and Mishael, and Malchiah, and Hashum, and Hashbadana, Zechariah, and Meshullam. AND EZRA OPENED THE BOOK IN THE SIGHT OF ALL THE PEOPLE; (FOR HE WAS ABOVE ALL THE PEOPLE;) AND WHEN HE OPENED IT, ALL THE PEOPLE STOOD UP: And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

Nehemiah 8:4-6

Transform your ministry, your life and your church by respecting the greatest asset of a minister - a book!

Why did the whole congregation stand up when the book was opened? Respect! You must develop a proper respect for books. The people stood up when the book was opened and this was a sign of great honour. There was a great respect for the Holy Book that was about to be read. That respect for books is what you need for your life and ministry to be transformed. Great men of God have always shown great respect for books. That is why the people stood up when the book was opened.

The action of standing up is the respect that would have been shown to a president of a country who walked into a church!

Develop a proper respect for the books! The greatest book in existence is the Bible. The second greatest set of books in existence is any book that explains the Bible to us. Every book that brings the word of God is a great book and worthy of your respect. You must regard a book as something that can and will change you. Books have changed my life!

You must admit that everything you know about God is what you have learnt from the Book of books - the Bible! When Jesus read the Holy Book in the synagogue, the people stood up for the reading. Jesus read the book of Isaiah for the people to receive a truly wonderful revelation.

And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all.

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, HE WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE ON THE SABBATH DAY, AND STOOD UP FOR TO READ.

And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent

me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

AND HE CLOSED THE BOOK, AND HE GAVE IT AGAIN TO THE MINISTER, AND SAT DOWN. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.

And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.

And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Joseph's son?

Luke 4:14-22

Jesus stood up for the reading of the book, but sat down for the preaching. Jesus showed great respect for the reading of the Holy Scriptures. Do you have the same reverence for the books and the scriptures? Perhaps that is the missing key in your ministry - a great respect for the books! A great respect for the word of God!

One day a young man wrote a fictional book and put it out for sale. Later on, his brother wrote a book that contained teachings from the Bible. Many people bought the books that held teachings from the Bible, but the fictional book was soon gone from view. No one wanted to buy those fictional stories. The writer of the fictional stories was upset with people for patronizing his brother's book much more than they did his. But you cannot compare the two books!

A book about sacred and honoured scriptures cannot be compared with a human storybook based on emotional, runaway thoughts. You cannot compare the word of God with anything. No one can ever show the same respect to God's word as to a man's bedtime stories. Even Jesus Christ stood up for the reading of Isaiah's book! Why did Jesus stand up for the reading of Isaiah's book? Because it was worthy of His respect. It was a book that contained the word of God!

When you pay proper respect to books from God, you will invest in them and read them diligently and carefully. You will pray for understanding and revelation as you approach the word of God. God will speak to you and guide you through these holy books.

I believe all the books I have written are holy books because they contain the word of God.

Treat them specially and grow in your respect for the holy and special word of God.

Your life and ministry will change forever through a book.

Chapter 2
A Book is a Weapon

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

A weapon is any tool, device, or object used to cause harm, defend oneself, or gain an advantage in a conflict. Fight against your hated enemies using the well-recognised weapon of books.

The word of God is a sword in the realm of the spirit; therefore, books are also a sword that can strike through the enemy's heart.

There is real hatred for books by the enemies of the Lord. Books are well recognised in the realm of the spirit as devastating weapons! The books that contain the word of God are weapons of war. The word of God is a sword in the realm of the spirit; therefore, books are a painful sword and knife you can stick in the enemy's heart. This explains why there is so much hatred for books!

Over the years, I have been surprised by some people's hatred for my books. If the books contained false doctrines that some Christians wanted to correct, it would have been understandable. However, I have never heard of someone wanting to correct a false doctrine that I wrote about. Most of the time, it is an unreasonable and inexplicable hatred for the books. Many of my books describe and identify unfaithful, disloyal and treacherous people. I have noticed that treacherous people do not like my books.

I remember a pastor who threw my book down on the floor and stepped on it ferociously; hysterically shrieking and saying, "This is not a book, this is not a book!" This pastor had been in the congregation listening to me preach from one of my books on loyalty and disloyalty. He was so infuriated by the book that he could not stop himself from showing his disgust and dislike for the book.

Hatred for books is nothing new. I have experienced great hatred for my books. When books cause a lot of trouble in the enemy's camp, satan causes men to burn them. I once had someone make a fire and burn a pile of my books in the open and on social media. If your books have been burned before, it reveals the potency of your books and the threat that they pose. Only books of a certain rank are attacked by fire and burning! I know someone who had his books torn to shreds live on television.

A book can greatly destroy the enemies of your life and ministry. Jeremiah, the prophet, encountered hatred for his books. The famous reformer, Wycliffe, to whom we owe the translation of the Bible from Latin to English, also encountered profound hatred for his books. Martin Luther, Calvin, Hus and Wycliffe all had their books burned.

THE BURNING OF JEREMIAH'S BOOKS

The prophet Jeremiah caused a stir with the books he wrote. The king of Israel was so infuriated with the books of Jeremiah that he cut up the book himself and burned every page of Jeremiah's book in the fire.

Now the king was seated in the winter house, and a fire was burning in the fireplace in front of him. And it came about that whenever Jehudi, in his reading, had got through three or four divisions, THE KING, CUTTING THEM WITH HIS PENKNIFE, PUT THEM INTO THE FIRE, TILL ALL THE BOOK WAS BURNED UP IN THE FIRE WHICH WAS BURNING IN THE FIREPLACE. But they had no fear and gave no signs of grief, not the king or any of his servants, after hearing all these words. And Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had made a strong request to the king not to let the book be burned, but he would not give ear to them.

Jeremiah 36:22-25 (BBE)

THE BURNING OF WYCLIFFE'S BOOKS

In 1382, William Courtenay obtained his dream to be inducted as the new Archbishop of Canterbury. His first and primary goal as the new archbishop was to deal with Wycliffe's doctrines and followers. Courtenay called for a council to meet at Blackfriars to officially and formally condemn Wycliffe's opinions. He invited nine other bishops and thirty-six graduates of theology to make a decision on twenty-four of Wycliffe's writings[1].

In 1408, twenty-four years after Wycliffe's death, Thomas Arundel, the Archbishop of Canterbury, summoned a group of clergy and decreed that no further translations of the Bible could be issued by way of book or tract and that no man was allowed to read such a translation, in private or public, as composed in the time of the said John Wycliffe... under penalty of the greater excommunication. If a person was caught with one of Wycliffe's translations, he would lose his land and all his personal property to the Church[2].

In 1413, twenty-nine years after Wycliffe's death, a papal decree ordered Wycliffe's books to be burned[3].

In 1415, thirty-one years after his death, the General Council of the Western church met in Constance and condemned Wycliffe's teachings on three hundred accounts. They condemned his memory as "one who died an obstinate heretic" and ordered his bones to be exhumed from their resting place and "cast at a distance from the sepulchre." At the time, a bishop by the name of Philip Repton was the head of the Lutterworth diocese. To his credit, Repton left Wycliffe's grave untouched[4].

In 1428, forty-four years after Wycliffe's death, the pope (Pope Martin V) commanded that Wycliffe's bones be exhumed and burned, and the new bishop of Lutterworth, Richard Fleming, carried out the task. After Wycliffe's bones were exhumed and burned, the ashes were cast into the Swift River in an attempt to be free of any trace of him. But there was no chance of that. His memory was etched in the foundations of Christian liberty[5].

THE BURNING OF WILLIAM TYNDALE'S BOOKS

William Tyndale translated the Bible into English, which was illegal at the time. At the time of

Tyndale's translation of the Bible into English (early 16th century), it was illegal to translate the Bible into vernacular languages (like English) without the approval of the Catholic Church or the monarchy. This was because the Church held the belief that only Latin (specifically the Vulgate) should be used for Scripture, as it was seen as the authorized and authoritative version of the Bible[6]. William Tyndale's English New Testament (1526) was burned by church authorities in England[7]. He was later executed for heresy[8].

THE BURNING OF MARTIN LUTHER'S BOOKS

Martin Luther's writings challenged the Catholic Church, sparking the Protestant Reformation. His books, including *The 95 Theses* and *On the Freedom of a Christian*, were publicly burned by the Catholic Church.[9] Martin Luther was excommunicated, but his ideas spread, leading to Protestantism.

THE BURNING OF JOHN CALVIN'S BOOKS

John Calvin's writings were burned by both Catholic and some Protestant groups, especially in France.[10] Despite this act of book burning, Calvinism became a major branch of Protestant Christianity.

THE BURNING OF JAN HUS' BOOKS

Hus published a famous book called *De Ecclesia* (On the Church), which directly challenged papal authority and was a key reason for his execution.[11] Hus preached reform and challenged the Catholic Church. His sermons and theological writings were destroyed. Hus was burned at the stake for heresy, but his followers (the Hussites) influenced later Protestant movements. Copies of Hus' sermons, treatises, or letters were used to ignite the flames and were burned alongside him as a symbolic rejection. [12]

THE BURNING OF WATCHMAN NEE'S BOOKS

Watchman Nee was a prominent Chinese Christian teacher and church leader. His works were considered dangerous by the Communist government. His Christian writings were banned and destroyed in China.[13] Watchman Nee's writings were burned as part of the political persecution of the day. He was arrested in 1952 and spent the rest of his life in prison until he died in 1972. Despite this, many of Watchman Nee's books survived thanks to the efforts of his co-worker, Witness Lee, and the Living Stream Ministry.[14] His books have been preserved, translated, and widely circulated.

Chapter 3
How Books Will Change Your Ministry

THIS SECOND EPISTLE, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I STIR UP YOUR PURE MINDS by way of remembrance:

2 Peter 3:1

According to this beautiful scripture, books will stir you up into the works of God!

Your ministry will unfold through books because they will stir up your mind and heart.

The power of a book is to stir up the mind and heart!

1. Books will affect you greatly!
2. Books will rouse you from indifference!
3. Books will rouse you from complacency!
4. Books will rouse you from inactivity!
5. Books will provoke you!
6. Books will cause you to move rapidly!
7. Books will stir you up to do greater works!

How the Books Will Change Your Ministry

1. *Allow single words, sentences or phrases to change your life and ministry!* Watch out for words that jump at you when you are reading books! Watch out for single words! Watch out for single phrases! Watch out for striking sentences that stir you up! That is why God places a curse on anyone who takes away any of the words, phrases or sentences from His book. There is a phrase, "Give thyself wholly" which is found in the Bible (1 Timothy 4:15). This phrase changed my life and put me into the ministry. How important it is to take certain phrases literally so that God has the chance to speak to you!

   For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: AND IF ANY MAN SHALL TAKE AWAY FROM THE WORDS OF THE BOOK of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

   Revelation 22:18-19

2. *Join the successful group of pastors who keep the sayings and teachings in books.* Many pastors do not read and do not keep the sayings in the books.

Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, AND OF THEM WHICH KEEP THE SAYINGS OF THIS BOOK: worship God.

Revelation 22:9

3. *End the curse in your ministry by obeying everything in the books.* Many pastors are labouring under a curse because they are not continuing in the things written in the books. What will it take for you to become an obedient person? Don't you want the curse that brings frustration and difficulty in ministry to end? It is time to start believing the sayings that are in the books.

For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, CURSED IS EVERY ONE THAT CONTINUETH NOT IN ALL THINGS WHICH ARE WRITTEN IN THE BOOK of the law to do them.

Galatians 3:10

4. *Command blessings on your ministry by keeping the sayings in a book.* There is a blessing for those who keep the sayings and obey the books. A new and special blessing came upon me when I began to obey the sayings in Kenneth Hagin's books.

Behold, I come quickly: BLESSED IS HE THAT KEEPETH THE SAYINGS of the prophecy of this book.

Revelation 22:7

Become great like Jesus through a book. Jesus became great by choosing to read Isaiah and to believe what He was reading.

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. AND THERE WAS DELIVERED UNTO HIM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ESAIAS. AND WHEN HE HAD OPENED THE BOOK, HE FOUND THE PLACE WHERE IT WAS WRITTEN, … AND HE CLOSED THE BOOK, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.

Luke 4:16-17, 20-21

5. *Become successful in ministry by believing that books are written for you and about you.* When you adjust your mind and believe that a book is written of you and because of you, you will start to receive fantastic revelations from God. You will see the book as God's detailed instructions for you. You will see yourself in the volume of the book. The details of what you should do practically will be revealed to you in the volume of the book. A book will become like the voice of Jesus to you today. There are books that I read and consider that they were written for me and about me. These books change my life every time I read them. I receive personal direction and guidance all the time from these books. You are missing a great secret because you are leaving out the books.

Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will,

O God.

Hebrews 10:7

So I said, "I'm here to do it your way, o God, the way it's described in your book."

Hebrews 10:7 (MSG)

6. *Enter new realms by breaking the seals of a book.* Every book has a seal, and it is when the seals are broken that you understand a book. Sealed books are realities. Many people are staring at sealed books. It is only when the seals of a book are broken that the book begins to bless you. I entered new realms of the ministry by breaking the seals of Rick Joyner's prophetic books.

AND THE VISION OF ALL IS BECOME UNTO YOU AS THE WORDS OF A BOOK THAT IS SEALED, WHICH MEN DELIVER TO ONE THAT IS LEARNED, SAYING, READ THIS, I PRAY THEE: AND HE SAITH, I CANNOT; FOR IT IS SEALED: And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned. Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men.

Isaiah 29:11-13

As you can see from this passage, it is impossible to be blessed by a book that is sealed. You may need someone to break the seals of books for you. John the Revelator was very sad because no one could break the seals of the book.

And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne A BOOK WRITTEN WITHIN AND ON THE BACKSIDE, SEALED WITH SEVEN SEALS. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. AND I WEPT MUCH, BECAUSE NO MAN WAS FOUND WORTHY TO OPEN AND TO READ THE BOOK, NEITHER TO LOOK THEREON.

Revelation 5:1-4

7. *Transform your ministry by connecting with a teacher.* Your teacher will break the seals on the books. You will benefit from books when you have a teacher to explain the books to you. *Books need teachers to break their seals.*

It is important to listen to messages that teach the things that are written in books. The teachings you hear will explain what you are reading. This is why we teach from the Bible. If there were no teachings from the Bible, we would not understand large sections of the Bible. Thank God for all the Bible teachers who have made us understand the Bible in a real and practical way. Today, the Bible is more real to me because I have heard so many teachings from the Bible. My books will become much clearer to you when you hear teachings about what is written in the books.

An angel of the Lord spoke to Philip. "Go south to the desert road," he said. "It's

the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." So Philip started out. On his way he met an Ethiopian official. The man had an important position in charge of all the wealth of the Kandake. Kandake means queen of Ethiopia. This official had gone to Jerusalem to worship.

On his way home he was sitting in his chariot. He was reading the book of Isaiah the prophet. The Holy Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot. Stay near it." So Philip ran up to the chariot. He heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE READING?" PHILIP ASKED. "HOW CAN I?" HE SAID. "I NEED SOMEONE TO EXPLAIN IT TO ME." SO HE INVITED PHILIP TO COME UP AND SIT WITH HIM. Here is the part of Scripture the official was reading. It says, "He was led like a sheep to be killed. Just as lambs are silent while their wool is being cut off, he did not open his mouth. When he was treated badly, he was refused a fair trial. Who can say anything about his children? His life was cut off from the earth." (Isaiah 53:7,8) The official said to Philip, "Tell me, please. Who is the prophet talking about? Himself, or someone else?" Then Philip began with that same part of Scripture. He told him the good news about Jesus.

Acts 8:26-35 (NIRV)

8. *Take control of your church through the power of books.* Churches can be controlled and managed through books and the teachings in books. Ezekiel, the prophet, was given the roll of a book to control people.* When a congregation is made to read books, they are educated and trained through the books. You can achieve much more with people who are educated and trained by books. Many churches have learned this secret and insist on entire groups of people in the church reading certain books. All churches that I lead are trained by the books. No one can become a leader without reading certain books.

I have met pastors who make people read some of my books as compulsory training. Imagine a nation full of people who cannot read or write. There would be no lawyers, judges, accountants, pharmacists, doctors, engineers or teachers. No one in the nation would understand anything. This is why nations spend so much money to educate the population. A nation becomes wild and uncontrollable when it is full of people who do not read or write. A church becomes wild and uncontrollable when it is full of people who do not read books.

But you, son of man, give ear to what I say to you, AND DO NOT BE UNCONTROLLED LIKE THAT UNCONTROLLED PEOPLE: let your mouth be open and take what I give you. And looking, I saw a hand stretched out to me, and I SAW THE ROLL OF A BOOK IN IT;

Ezekiel 2:8-9 (BBE)

But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee. And when I looked, behold, an hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein; And he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.

Ezekiel 2:8-10

9. *Seek the Lord through books!* Change your ministry today by developing a desire for books. Seek the books! Love books! Love your ministry! Love your church! Look for books! Search for them! The time has come for us to stop being told to read books and to start reading books by ourselves.

God responds to seekers, to askers and finders! They are the ones who find things. When you seek God on your own by seeking Him through books, you will find Him and you will enjoy Him.

SEEK YE OUT OF THE BOOK OF THE LORD, AND READ: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them.

Isaiah 34:16

10. *Transform your ministry through a library of books!* Transform your ministry and church through wisdom that comes through a collection of books. Become a great nation through a collection of books. The key wisdom for your ministry is a body of structured knowledge. The Bible is an example of a body of structured knowledge. The Bible is a library that stands on its own. It is a library of 66 books. It is this library of books that feeds us and trains us to be what we are supposed to be in the ministry.

Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the Lord my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it. KEEP THEREFORE AND DO THEM; FOR THIS IS YOUR WISDOM AND YOUR UNDERSTANDING IN THE SIGHT OF THE NATIONS, WHICH SHALL HEAR ALL THESE STATUTES, AND SAY, SURELY THIS GREAT NATION IS A WISE AND UNDERSTANDING PEOPLE. For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for? And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?

Deuteronomy 4:5-8

Chapter 4
Get An Approved Ministry

STUDY TO SHEW THYSELF APPROVED unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

2 Timothy 2:15

To be approved is to be spoken of favourably.

To be approved is to be adjudged good.

To be approved is for people to have a positive opinion about your ministry.

Do you want your ministry to be adjudged a good ministry?

Do you want people to have a positive opinion about your ministry?

Do you want to be the subject of severe rebukes and continual reprimanding because of your failing ministry?

Are you not tired of failing and losing?

Do you not want some victories in the ministry?

Do you not want to be approved in ministry?

Transform your church and ministry into an approved ministry by obeying one of the greatest apostolic commandments given to pastors: study!

Study what? Study books!

Study to show yourself approved!

Study until people's opinions about your ministry become positive.

To study means to devote time and attention to learning and understanding something. Devote time and attention to learn and understand ministry.

To study also means to analyse and think deeply about something. You must analyse and think deeply about the ministry.

To study means to prepare for a test. You must prepare for all the tests of ministry. To study means to gain knowledge. You must gain all the knowledge you can so that you can do well in ministry.

All studies are related to books. Get the books and study them! The big secret is the books!

Timothy's ministry unfolded through studying books. It is no surprise that Apostle Paul told Timothy, his son in the ministry, to study books. I once told a congregation that I had only one

thing to tell them. I said to them; “If I never get the chance to speak to you again, I would urge you to simply study the books.”

Indeed, that is the greatest command you can give to any serious minister - find the books that God is using to bless you and read them a hundred times over in the next ten years. You will be changed! You will be transformed! You will advance! You will be approved in the ministry!

Today, many ministers are not approved. Perhaps you are a failure in the ministry; and if God were to give marks for your ministry, you would get less than 50%.

Perhaps your pastoral ministry is not even approved, nor is it acceptable. You are far below par! You are not doing well!

Perhaps you are a failed evangelist, and no one attends your crusades.

Perhaps if your teaching ministry came under scrutiny, you would get less than 50% because your teachings are not anointed, nor are they interesting. You are a dried-out river that produces little freshness. People fall asleep whilst you teach and preach because there is no freshness or life in you.

You have not read the books by which a man of God is approved. Your apostolic ministry and prophetic ministry are failing and fading.

There is good news for you. You can become an approved minister! How can you be approved? By studying! Apostle Paul told Timothy how his ministry could change into an approved ministry.

A great change can come into your ministry through the books that you study. It is time for you to study the necessary books and receive revelation.

Books are an essential part of a minister’s life. That is why the Apostle Paul read so many books and quoted from them. Without reading and studying certain books, your ministry is not likely to gain approval! You will not be recognised or accepted until you study certain books. You need to do exactly what Paul said: study books so that you become approved by God!

Chapter 5
Get a Blessing

BLESSED IS HE THAT READETH, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

Revelation 1:3

Get a blessing for your life and ministry through a book. You need a blessing to push you forward. Let me show you an easy way to get a blessing. Get a book! There is a blessing in a book. There is a famous blessing for a person who reads!

Blessed is he that readeth! How true that is! God will bless the readers! Anointed books have a blessing upon them. Blessed is he that readeth!

Anointed books bring blessings and advancement into your life as you read them. Transform your ministry, your life and your church, by receiving a blessing from books! Blessed is he that readeth!

Perhaps the greatest blessing that ever came to me after my salvation, came to me through the reading of certain books. Blessed is he that readeth!

There are many curses everywhere. Curses are like landmines scattered all over the place. There are curses for almost every sin in this world. There are curses for lying, curses for stealing, curses for dishonouring parents, curses for mocking fathers and also curses for disobedience. It is almost impossible to live without stepping on one of these curses. We therefore need things that bring blessings into our lives. You need something that will advance you out of the accursed place and push you out of range of the curse. You need something to neutralize the curse in your life! I am happy to announce to you that a blessing will come into your life through reading books. Blessed is he that readeth!

May you obtain great blessings in your life as you read God-ordained books.

You will defeat and neutralize the curses of continual frustration, demotion, defeat, sickness, failure and loss that are working in your life.

A blessing will come into your life and ministry as you read this book!

Chapter 6
Get Encouragement

And there was great joy throughout the church that day as THEY READ THIS ENCOURAGING MESSAGE.

Acts 15:31 (NLT)

There are books that will encourage you and guide you in the ministry. Make sure you find them. God will bless you greatly as you read encouraging messages found in books. Few people can encourage pastors and leaders. This is because there are not many successful pastors and leaders who have survived the storms and crises of ministry. There are also not many people who understand what is happening to them and who can explain the ministry to you.

Kings are lonely people. Leaders are lonely people. David encouraged himself because there were not many people who could encourage the king. How does a leader encourage himself? One way is through books!

A minister is supposed to encourage himself because there is often no one who can encourage him. Few people understand the real pressures and tensions a leader experiences.

No one loves you as you expect or hope to be loved.

And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: BUT DAVID ENCOURAGED HIMSELF IN THE LORD HIS GOD.

1 Samuel 30:6

Loneliness is a normal experience for people in the ministry! Books can be the answer to your loneliness and problems in the ministry. End depression in your life through books! Assure yourself that you are on the right path through books! Books have a great effect on your well-being and stability.

I remember praying many times in great discouragement and despair. For many hours, I have paced up and down in the house, seeking God and not understanding my struggles and difficulties. I have been in anguish many times, wondering and not knowing whether God was angry with me or whether He liked me or not. I've always wanted God to like me and choose me. I've only worked for God so that He would like me and be pleased with me. If He is not pleased with me, then what is the point?

Books have been a source of amazing comfort and reassurance. I have often been amazed at what I find in a book. When I discover a revelation or read a testimony of another fellow minister, I am amazed and encouraged to press on.

And there was great joy throughout the church that day as THEY READ THIS ENCOURAGING MESSAGE.

Acts 15:31 (NLT)

Chapter 7
Achieve What Paul Achieved

AND LEST I SHOULD BE EXALTED ABOVE MEASURE THROUGH THE ABUNDANCE OF THE REVELATIONS, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

2 Corinthians 12:7

Achieve what Paul achieved in the ministry through an abundance of books and revelations. Exaltation, advancement and promotion in ministry come through the abundance of revelations you receive.

It is of note that you go higher in rank in the ministry through the abundance of revelations that you receive. Indeed, the Apostle Paul was promoted highly because of the abundance of revelations he received.

So how does one become a man of many revelations? The answer is simple - books!

So how does one become promoted highly? The answer is simple - books!

I am speaking about the great Apostle Paul. The man of great revelations! The man who had an abundance of fantastic revelations! The man who was caught up to the third heavens! How did Paul do it? Did he only depend on the abundance of fantastic heavenly revelations he received? No, he did not.

Apostle Paul was also a man of books. He read books and quoted abundantly from these books. Apostle Paul was a man of abundant revelations because of the many books he read and quoted from.

Do not be fooled into thinking that Apostle Paul just had visions and dreams. Certainly not.

No one has so many visions that he does not need or read books. Apostle Paul must have been a man of abundant revelations that came to him through the books he read and quoted from. Achieve what the Apostle Paul achieved by using books just like he did!

Paul's ministry unfolded through the books that he read. Transform your ministry, your life and your church, by the books you read.

Perhaps the greatest part of Paul's ministry was the books he wrote for the church. It is worth noting that Apostle Paul, in his ministry of writing books, quoted over 260 times from Old Testament books.

That is why books were so important to Paul. You will notice that Paul's ministry was built deeply on other books that he read. Why would he quote from or paraphrase all these passages if he was not a deep reader of other books?

Indeed, Paul did receive revelation directly from God. Yes, Paul was caught up to the third

heavens. But he still needed books! He still read many books. His whole life and ministry depended on books, even though he had fantastic prophetic revelations and experiences.

The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, AND THE BOOKS, but especially the parchments.

2 Timothy 4:13

[1]In Paul's book of Romans, he quoted or paraphrased 84 times from Old Testament books.

In the book of Hebrews, (which many scholars believe was written by Paul) he quotes 83 times from different books of the Old Testament.

To write 1 Corinthians, Paul quoted from 26 different passages of the Old Testament books.

To write 2 Corinthians, Apostle Paul quoted 18 times from passages in Old Testament books.

To write the book of Galatians, the Apostle Paul quoted 14 different passages from books in the Old Testament.

To write the book of Ephesians, Apostle Paul quoted 12 different passages from books in the Old Testament.

To write the book of Philippians, Apostle Paul quoted from 6 different passages of books in the Old Testament.

To write the book of Colossians, Apostle Paul quoted from 3 different passages of books in the Old Testament.

To write the two books of Thessalonians, Apostle Paul quoted from 8 different passages of books in the Old Testament.

To write the two books of Timothy, the Apostle Paul quoted from 13 different passages of books in the Old Testament.

Only Paul's two shortest epistles, Titus and Philemon, contain no quotes from any known book.

As your ministry grows in maturity, you will find yourself quoting from many other books. Your revelation is the fruit of the books you read. Take your ministry higher with books![1]

Chapter 8
Prophet Daniel and Books

In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; In the first year of his reign I DANIEL UNDERSTOOD BY BOOKS the number of the years, WHEREOF THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO JEREMIAH the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

Daniel 9:1-2

Achieve what the great prophet Daniel achieved. Daniel's ministry unfolded through books.

Daniel had been taken away as a captive to Babylon when he was a young teenager, probably made a eunuch, and trained to serve in Nebuchadnezzar's court.

The prophets—Daniel, Zephaniah, Habakkuk, Ezekiel, and Jeremiah—were all contemporaries.[1] Jeremiah began his ministry as a young man during the reign of King Josiah.[2] It is likely that Jeremiah was forced to join a remnant that ran off to Egypt, when others were taken into captivity. Thus, Jeremiah's ministry was largely restricted to that group in Egypt.[3]

Ezekiel was taken to the rivers of Babylon where, as a slave labourer, he and his fellow captives dug and maintained the canals branching off the Euphrates River.[4] This was several miles from Babylon itself and it is here that Ezekiel performed his ministry.[5]

Daniel was one of the young men who was taken to the king's court in Babylon and eventually rose to very high ranks in the government of the day.[6]

Each of these men was a prophet, but they ministered to different groups of people and probably never came into contact with each other. It was only by reading each other's books that they could receive the anointing.

Daniel was so great that he could interpret dreams.

Daniel was so great that he could interpret dreams even when he was not told what the dream was.

Daniel was so great that he was greatly beloved in heaven.

Daniel was so great that he had Angel Gabriel appearing to him.

Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even THE MAN GABRIEL, WHOM I HAD SEEN IN THE VISION AT THE BEGINNING, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation. And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.

Yet, we do know that Daniel advanced in ministry through books. Daniel gained an understanding of the ministry by reading the books written by Jeremiah who was in Egypt. Read the book of Daniel and see how great a prophet he was! Yet, he had to read and gain more understanding through books written by other ministers.

In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

Daniel 9:2

Notice a great combination of the very supernatural and the very fantastic in the visions of Daniel which came through reading the books of Jeremiah. This great man only received understanding when he read the books written by Jeremiah.

Chapter 9
King Josiah and Books

Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of Boscath... And Hilkiah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe, I HAVE FOUND THE BOOK OF THE LAW IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD. And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it... And Shaphan the scribe shewed the king, saying, Hilkiah the priest hath delivered me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king. And it came to pass, WHEN THE KING HAD HEARD THE WORDS OF THE BOOK OF THE LAW, THAT HE RENT HIS CLOTHES... Go ye, enquire of the Lord for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that is found: for great is the wrath of the Lord that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not hearkened unto the words of this book, to do according unto all that which is written concerning us.

2 Kings 22:1, 8, 10-11, 13

An eight-year-old king is a severely handicapped person. A handicap is a condition that makes success more difficult. An eight-year-old boy will certainly not know what to do to govern a nation, but he can overcome his handicaps through books.

You can overcome your handicaps in ministry through books. You can attain success in your life and ministry through books. Achieve what Josiah achieved in life and ministry by reading!

King Josiah's ministry became powerful through the books. A great revival was birthed in the life of King Josiah when he discovered a book, the Book of the Law.

There are many aspects of life and ministry that you are blind to. Blindness is part of most ministers' lives. We simply do not see what God is doing everywhere.

Blindness is part of ministry because of our human pride. Most ministers cannot see what God is using others to do. *The world is so big that a combination of your pride plus the sheer size of the world blinds you.* Prophet Isaiah accurately described God's servants as some of the blindest groups of people.

Who is blind but My servant, Or so deaf as My messenger whom I send? Who is so blind as he that is at peace with Me, Or so blind as the servant of the LORD?

Isaiah 42:19 (NASB95)

Jesus also described the Pharisees as blind and ignorant men. The pride and hypocrisy of the Pharisees blinded them to the Messiah, whom they had been waiting for.

Then the disciples came and said to Him, "Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this statement?" But He answered and said, "Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant shall be uprooted. Let them alone; THEY ARE BLIND GUIDES OF THE BLIND. And if a blind man guides a blind man, both will fall into a pit."

Matthew 15:12-14 (NASB95)

Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor!

Matthew 23:16

YE BLIND GUIDES, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.

Matthew 23:24

A great awakening and a great vision can come to a church through the discovery of a book. Most of the changes and newness of ministry I have had in my church have come through the discovery of books. The transformation of my good self into a minister was through books.

It may seem that you have accidentally stumbled upon a book, but actually, God is the one who has sent His angel to show you the book. I seemed to have casually come across Kenneth Hagin's books. But that was no accident. In the realm of the spirit, God brought me to Kenneth Hagin through his books.

I also seemed to have stumbled across Rick Joyner's books in a bookshop in South Africa. No one I knew had ever read Rick Joyner's books. But perhaps they are the most profound and prophetic books I have ever read. Rick Joyner's books are life changers for me!

One day, I again stumbled across a small biography of John Wesley. Oh, how profound and utterly life-changing it was! I became hooked onto the life story of this man and found so many similarities between his ministry and mine that brought comfort and strength to my life. I ended up reading his story many times over by different authors.

From today, do not consider the discovery of a book an accident. God is showing you important truths and revelations that will change your life forever. You are the new King Josiah who will bring great revival to the world through a book!

Chapter 10
Joshua and Books

THIS BOOK OF THE LAW shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe and do according to all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall deal wisely and have good success.

Joshua 1:8 (AMPC)

Joshua the famous general was successful through a book.

This book of the law! This book! This book!

Take your church into new territories through books.

Achieve what Joshua achieved in ministry. Take people to a new land!

Joshua's ministry depended on a book. He was told directly about the book he needed to read and study. The secret of success for Joshua's ministry was a book. From the very beginning, God pointed out a book to Joshua.

The need for knowledge that comes from books cannot be overemphasized. The poverty of your ministry, both in numbers and in finance, is a result of a lack of knowledge and a lack of skills.

Why are ministries not successful? Why are generals not successful at war?

Often, they are not successful because of a lack of knowledge, a lack of skills and laziness! These three will always feature among the causes of the problems you have.

A book will give you the knowledge needed for success in ministry. This is why Joshua was told to meditate on the books. Success is created by reading books, understanding books and implementing things you find in books.

You are not likely to find a greater key to moving forward than the key of reading, studying and meditating on the books that God brings to you. Go right now and find the book that will change everything about your ministry.

[1]Martin Luther, the Catholic priest, was changed completely by reading a book. He was forced to read and study the Bible because he had to lecture from it. When he did, he was shocked to find out scriptures that changed him and the world forever. He found out that we are saved by faith and not by works. He found out that if we believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths, we shall be saved.[1] These amazing truths were discovered just because a priest was forced to read his Bible. Can you imagine the change that will come into the world, if more people read the books in front of them and available to them?

Chapter 11
John and Books

And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: AND HE HAD IN HIS HAND A LITTLE BOOK OPEN: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth, And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not... And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. AND I TOOK THE LITTLE BOOK OUT OF THE ANGEL'S HAND, AND ATE IT UP, AND IT WAS IN MY MOUTH SWEET AS HONEY: AND AS SOON AS I HAD EATEN IT, MY BELLY WAS BITTER. AND HE SAID UNTO ME, THOU MUST PROPHESY AGAIN BEFORE MANY PEOPLES, AND NATIONS, AND TONGUES, AND KINGS.

Revelation 10:1-4, 9-11

You must find the book that God is supernaturally bringing to you. You must eat up this book and it will have a supernatural effect on your life and ministry.

Your ministry is about to start working. Your church is about to start working and growing.

The greatest revelation of what a book can and will do for you is found in the book of Revelation! Many people have browsed through books that had little impact on their lives.

The passage of scripture above teaches you to eat up books! Eating is different from reading! When you eat a book, it becomes a part of you. To eat a book is to study a book. ***Books are meant to be eaten! Books are meant to be absorbed until the revelations in them become a part and parcel of you.***

And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many PEOPLES, and NATIONS, and TONGUES, and KINGS.

Revelation 10:11

This verse from the book of Revelation, reveals the four dimensions your ministry can attain to if you eat books.

The progression of John's ministry is clearly stated. He was to go through four dimensions of ministry. You are also destined to go through these four dimensions of ministry.

You will go through these phases of ministry through the power you receive from a little book.

Four Dimensions of Ministry through Books

1. First dimension: *You will minister to many people!*
2. Second dimension: *You will minister in other nations!*

3. Third dimension: *You will minister in other languages!*
4. Fourth dimension: *You will minister to kings!*

Most ministers of the gospel never minister to many people (large crowds of people). Most pastors never rise up out of small groups. Many people reading this book have less than a hundred people to minister to every week. All that can change by a book!

It is true and real that reading and meditating on the revelations that are in a book can radically transform your ministry. If only you would implement the wonderful revelations God gives you through books, you would see the results in your ministry.

Most ministers of the gospel never minister in other nations. Most pastors never have to travel outside their country for anything. There is a reason why some people introduce themselves and say, "I have preached in seventy nations" or "I have preached in one hundred nations." The number of nations a person preaches in are important, because of what the angel said in Revelation 10:11.

As you read and eat this book brought to you supernaturally, you will travel to many nations which have no link or connection to you in the natural. You will truly be an international minister!

Most ministers of the gospel never minister to people who speak a different language. Most pastors only need to preach in their own language and they will be fine. It is when you start advancing in ministry that you begin to need an interpreter. Most people who write books never need to translate them into another language. This large angel specifically said that John would prophesy to people of other tongues after eating up the book. And truly we are here today reading John's books in many languages around the world.

Most ministers of the gospel never minister to kings. Most pastors never ever meet heads of state or the kings and queens of this earth. It is clear from this passage that in the progression of ministry, you will see and encounter kings and men of authority. Meeting the great men of our world is a natural consequence of reading and absorbing a book until it becomes a part of you. It is your turn to become God's chosen vessel who will meet the kings of this earth.

Advance in all these four dimensions of ministry through books! The breaking through of your ministry into all these levels, depends on your determination to find your "little book" and to eat it up when you do.

Chapter 12
Timothy and Books

Until I come, give your time and effort to the public READING OF THE SCRIPTURES and to preaching and teaching.

1 Timothy 4:13 (GNT)

Timothy was a local pastor who was guided by Apostle Paul on what to do. Timothy received many instructions through the books that Paul wrote.

There are several ways to grow, stabilize and manage churches through a solid books' ministry. Apostle Paul is a good example of an apostle who controlled and managed his churches through books.

How to Manage Churches through Books

1. ***Make every leader become a reader of the scripture and the books.*** Make your leaders read the books out in church. Paul told Timothy to pay attention to reading.

   Till I come, devote yourself to [public and private] reading, to exhortation (preaching and personal appeals), and to teaching and instilling doctrine.

   1 Timothy 4:13 (AMPC)

2. ***Make your entire church read every single book that is available.*** The life and growth of the Thessalonian church depended on the books. Paul commanded that his epistles and books be read to the churches. He wanted EVERYONE TO READ EVERYTHING.

   I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read unto all the holy brethren.

   1 Thessalonians 5:27

3. ***Notice and deal with people who do not read, study or obey the books.*** Distinguish between those who obey and use the books, and those who do not obey the books.

The growth of the Thessalonian church depended on the members obeying the books. We must expect people to read and obey what is in the books. Failure to read and obey what is in the books is a very serious thing and should be taken as such!

And IF ANY MAN OBEY NOT OUR WORD BY THIS EPISTLE, NOTE THAT MAN, AND HAVE NO COMPANY WITH HIM, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

2 Thessalonians 3:14-15

4. ***Develop a special culture in your church through the books.*** The life, growth and culture of the church depend on the books. Repeated teaching from books will create a special, holy tradition and a holy culture in the ministry. A culture of unity, faithfulness and loyalty can

be created by repeated teachings from books. If you do not read and minister the knowledge and wisdom in the books, a culture of complaining, murmuring and rebellion will establish itself in your church. Paul noted that traditions had been taught and established through his letters and his words.

Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and HOLD THE TRADITIONS WHICH YE HAVE BEEN TAUGHT, WHETHER BY WORD, OR OUR EPISTLE.

2 Thessalonians 2:15

5. ***Govern, manage and control the branches of churches through the books.*** Apostle Paul ensured that his books were read in every different branch he established. Whatever the Laodicean church had, he ensured that the Colossian church also had.

And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.

Colossians 4:16

6. ***Remove unstable people from the churches through books.*** It is a well-known fact that wretched and miserable people always have a problem with epistles and books. They say, *"Do we have to read these books? Do we need to show people that we are learning from these books? Don't we also have the Holy Spirit? Can't God tell us what to preach without reading these books?"*

Impart knowledge and stability to your churches and members through books! Stability is imparted through books, and thereby church growth. My experience is that wicked, ignorant and unstable people struggle with books, as they do with other scriptures.

As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

2 Peter 3:16

"And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh." Ecclesiastes 12:12

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